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Services Division

Committee on China

(Minutes of the Fifty-Third Meeting -- 1400, 18 October 1955)

25X1A9a Present:

25X1X7 Guests:

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██████████ reported on Thailand's planned improvement of her transport net, expected to involve an investment of some \$60,000,000.

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██████████ also reported evidence that private retail merchants in China are being encouraged to increase trade -- probably a forerunner to their being more closely integrated with the state trading system.

Chinese economic aggressiveness in Burma and other Southeast Asian states was discussed and the parallel with Soviet activities in the Middle East noted.

There was considerable discussion of some preliminary findings from an examination of the published text of the Five Year Plan-- with particular regard to labor force figures, communications and rail transportation investment problems.

Agenda for 25 October 1955

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██████████ D/I will discuss imbalances in Chinese Communist industry.

All members are requested to be prepared to report on the results of their review of the Five Year Plan if time permits.

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